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**Ali**

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(54) **VERY HIGH ASPECT RATIO CONTACT**

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**H01L 21/265** (2006.01)  
**H01L 21/311** (2006.01)

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CPC ..... **H01L 29/45** (2013.01); **H01L 21/02164** (2013.01); **H01L 21/02271** (2013.01); **H01L 21/02532** (2013.01); **H01L 21/02595** (2013.01); **H01L 21/26513** (2013.01); **H01L 21/31116** (2013.01); **H01L 29/0684** (2013.01); **H01L 29/0692** (2013.01); **H01L 29/41** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**  
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H01L 29/45; H01L 21/02164; H01L 21/02271; H01L 21/02532; H01L 21/02595; H01L 21/26513; H01L 21/31116; H01L 29/0684; H01L 29/0692; H01L 29/41  
USPC ..... 257/301; 438/386  
See application file for complete search history.

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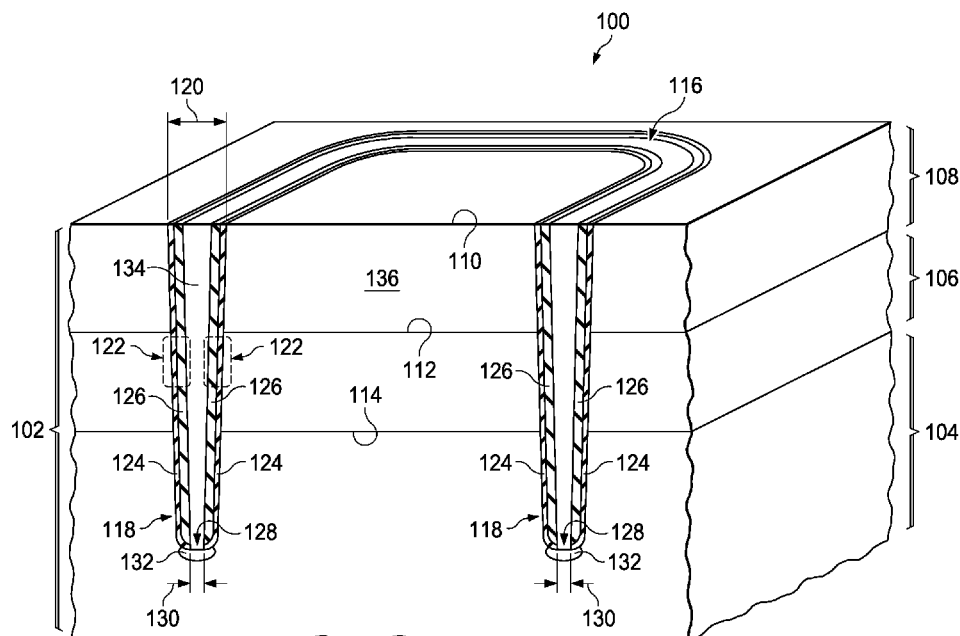
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A semiconductor device with a very high aspect ratio contact has a deep trench in the substrate. A dielectric liner is formed on sidewalls and a bottom of the deep trench. A contact opening is formed through the dielectric liner at the bottom of the deep trench to expose the substrate, leaving the dielectric liner on the sidewalls. Electrically conductive material is formed in the deep trench to provide the very high aspect ratio contact to the substrate through the contact opening.

**22 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets**



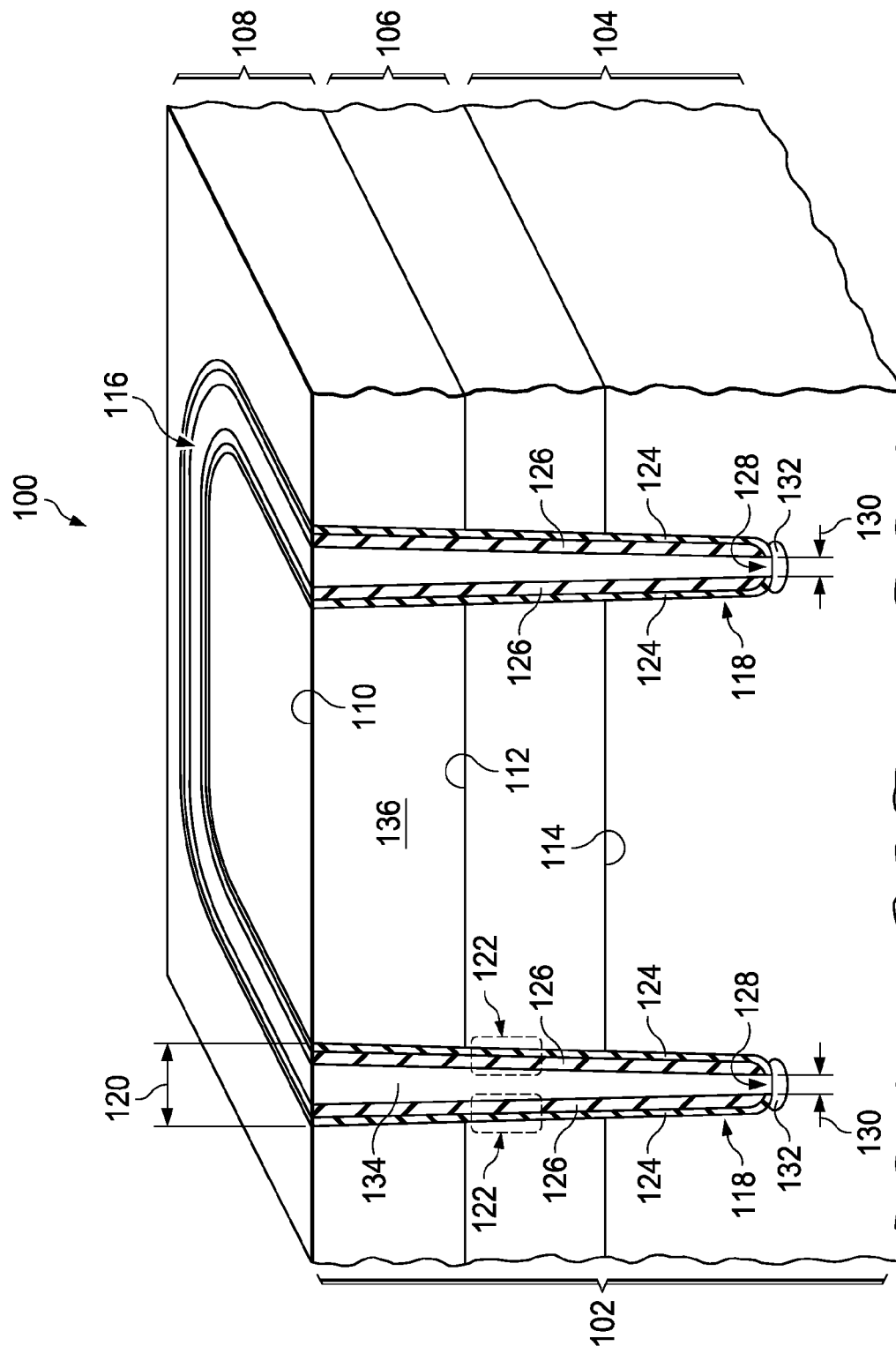


FIG. 1

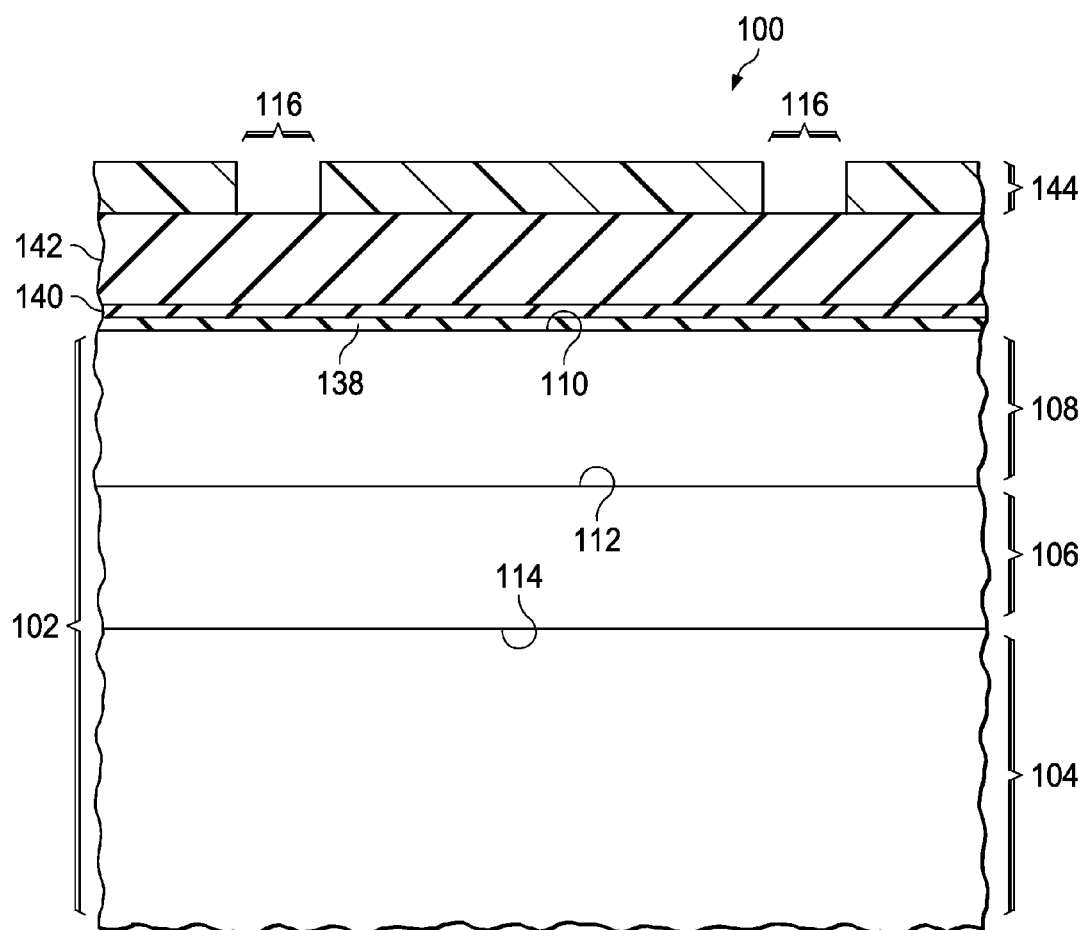


FIG. 2A

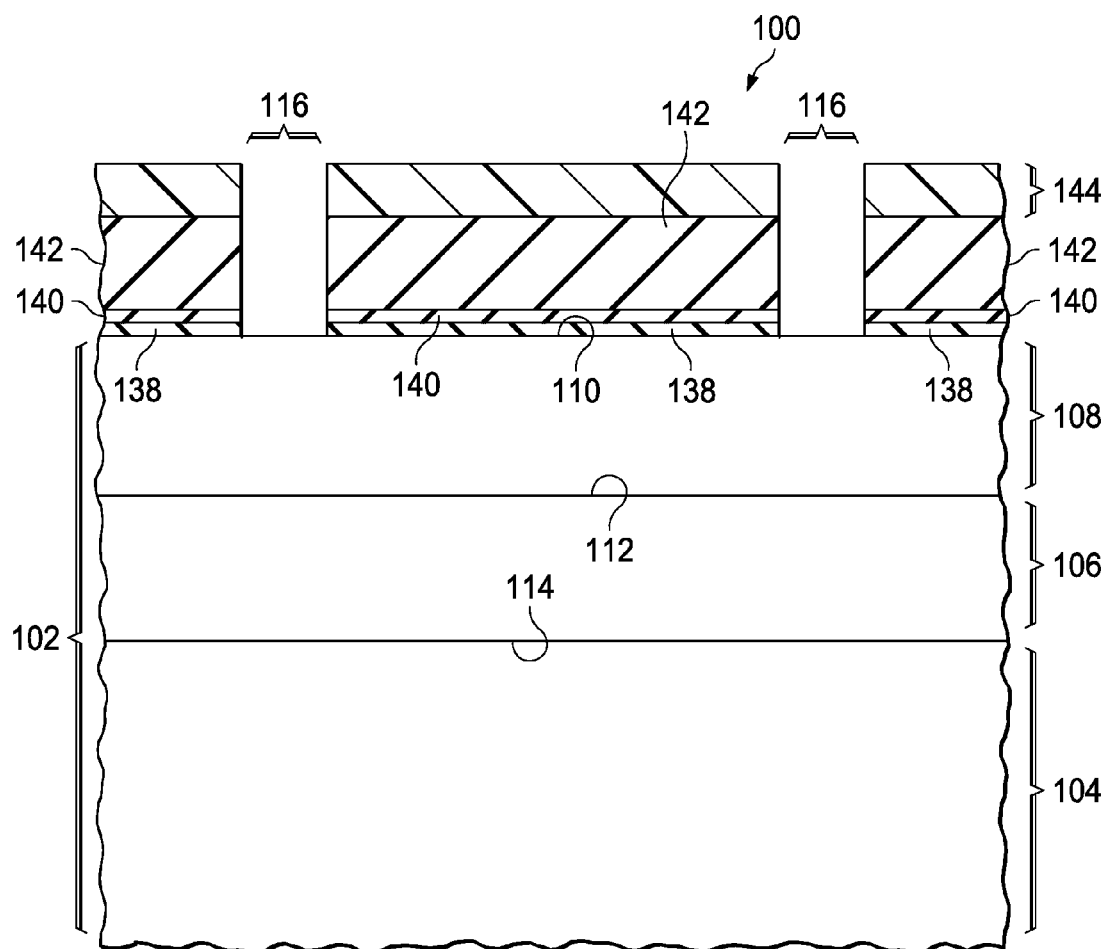


FIG. 2B

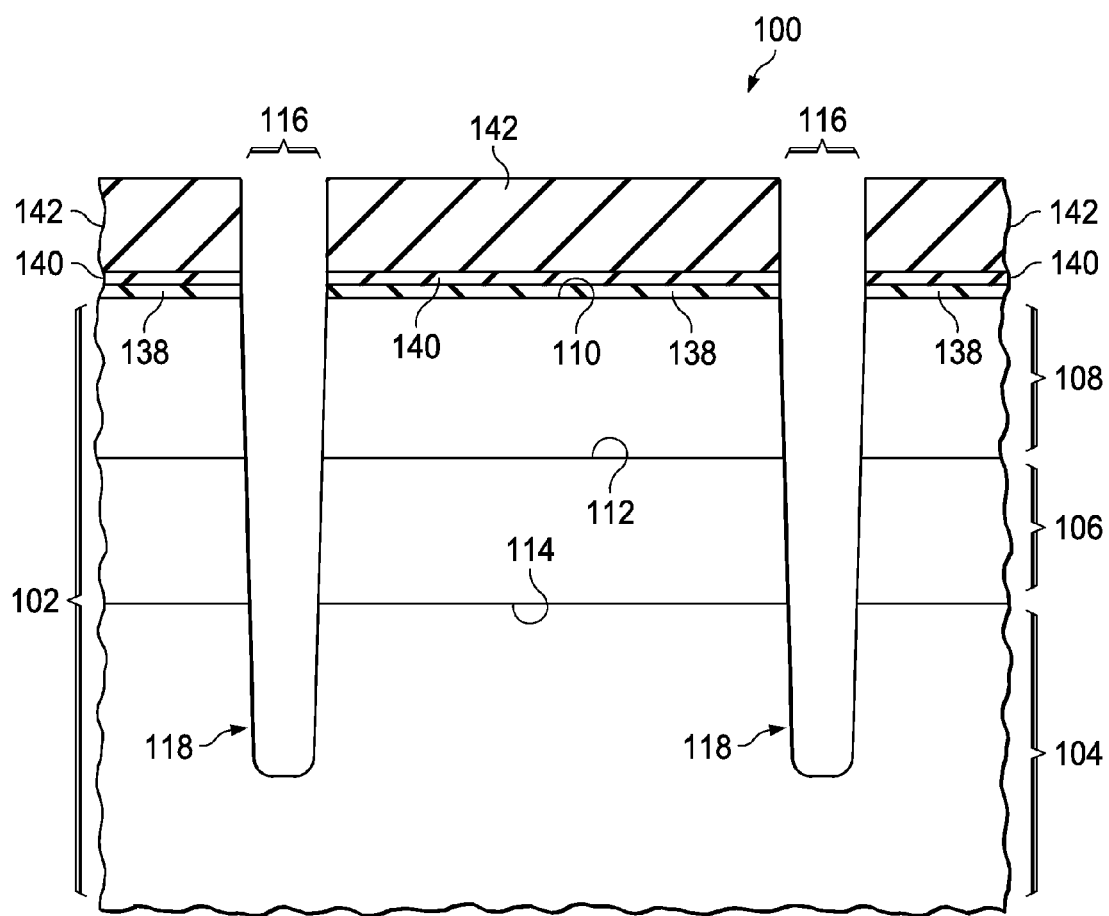


FIG. 2C

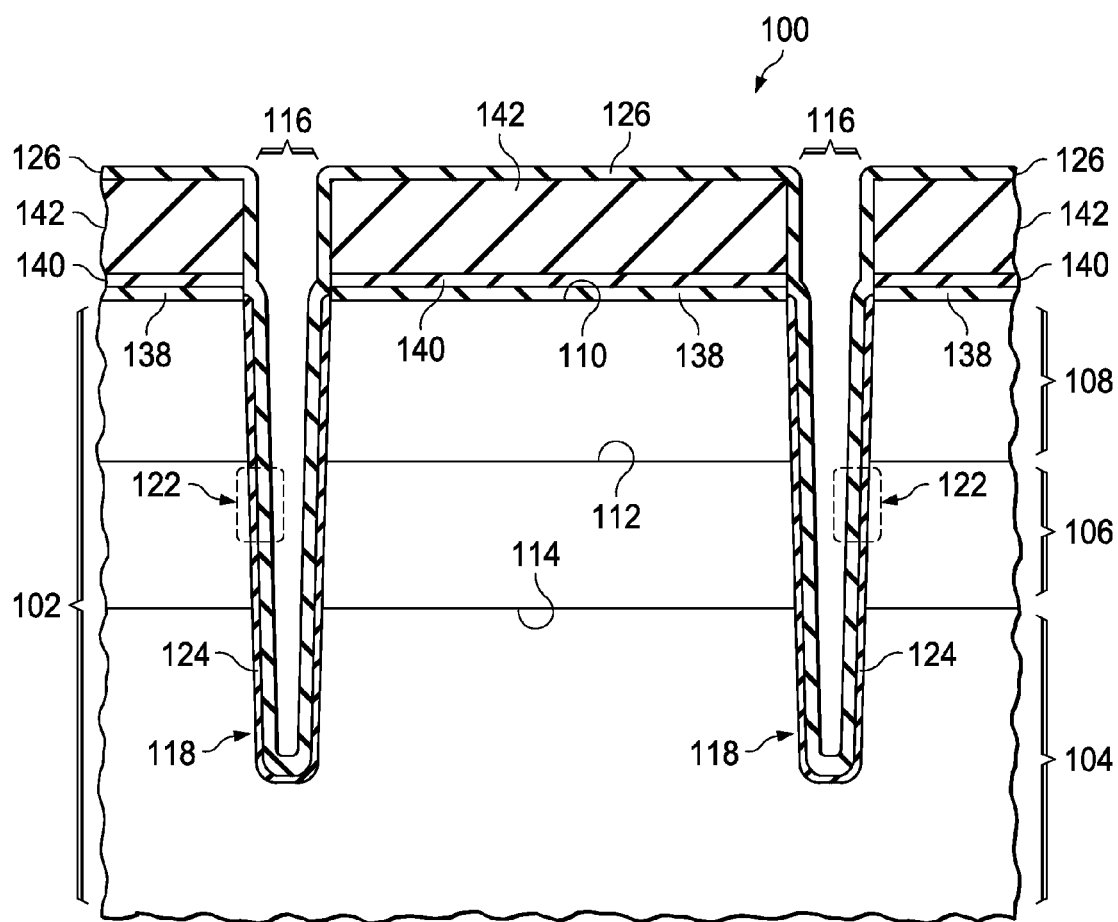


FIG. 2D

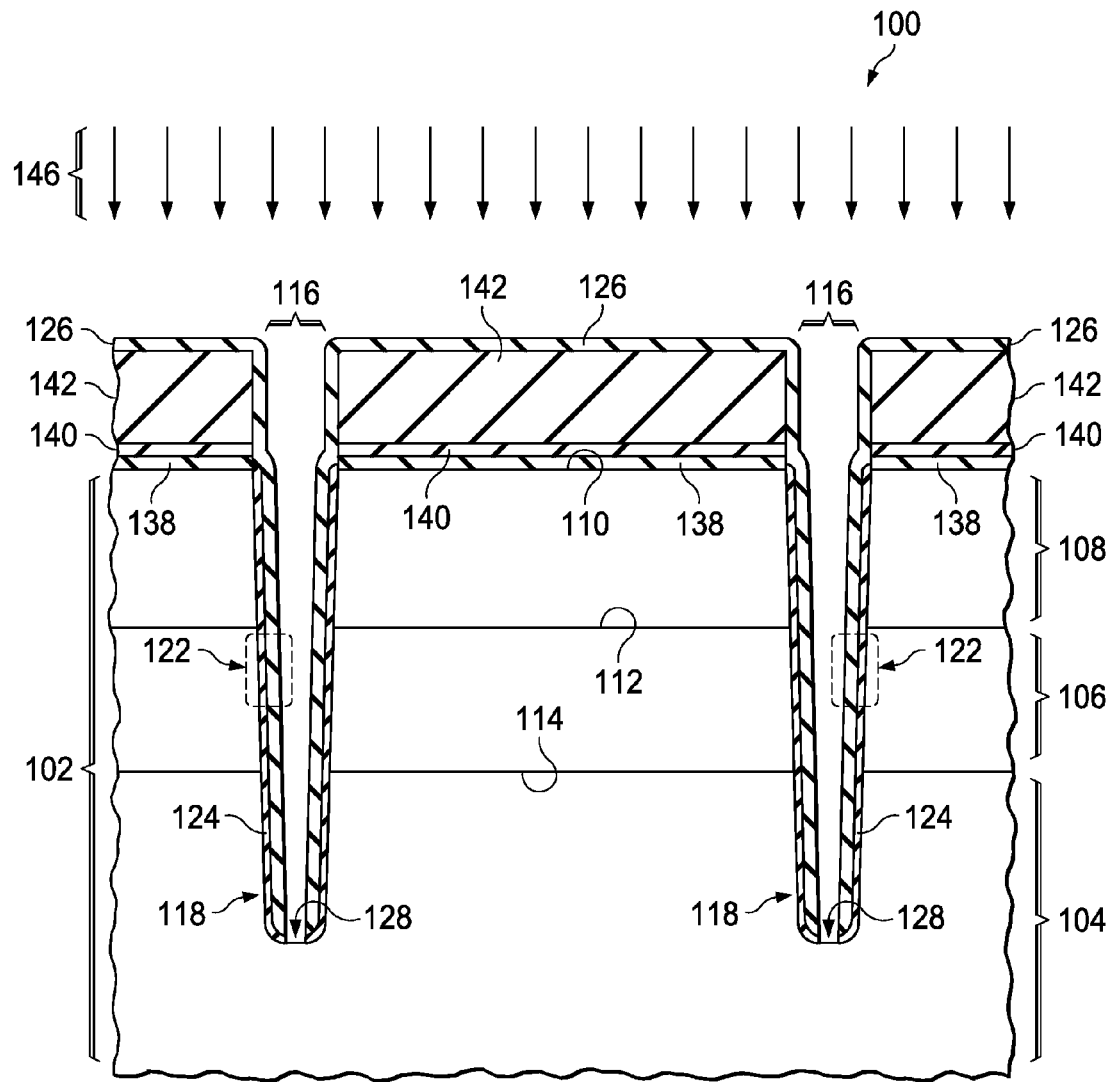


FIG. 2E

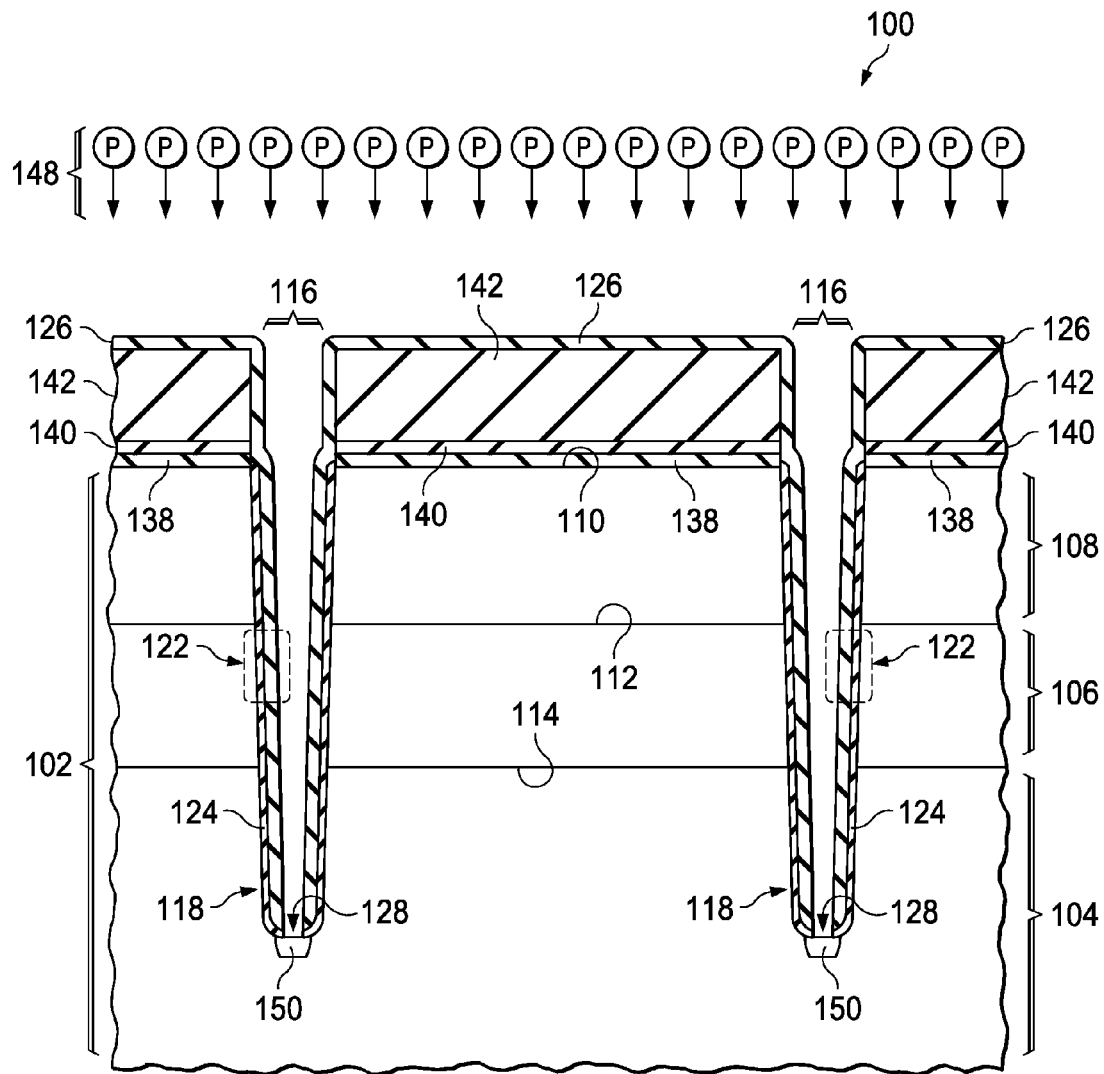


FIG. 2F



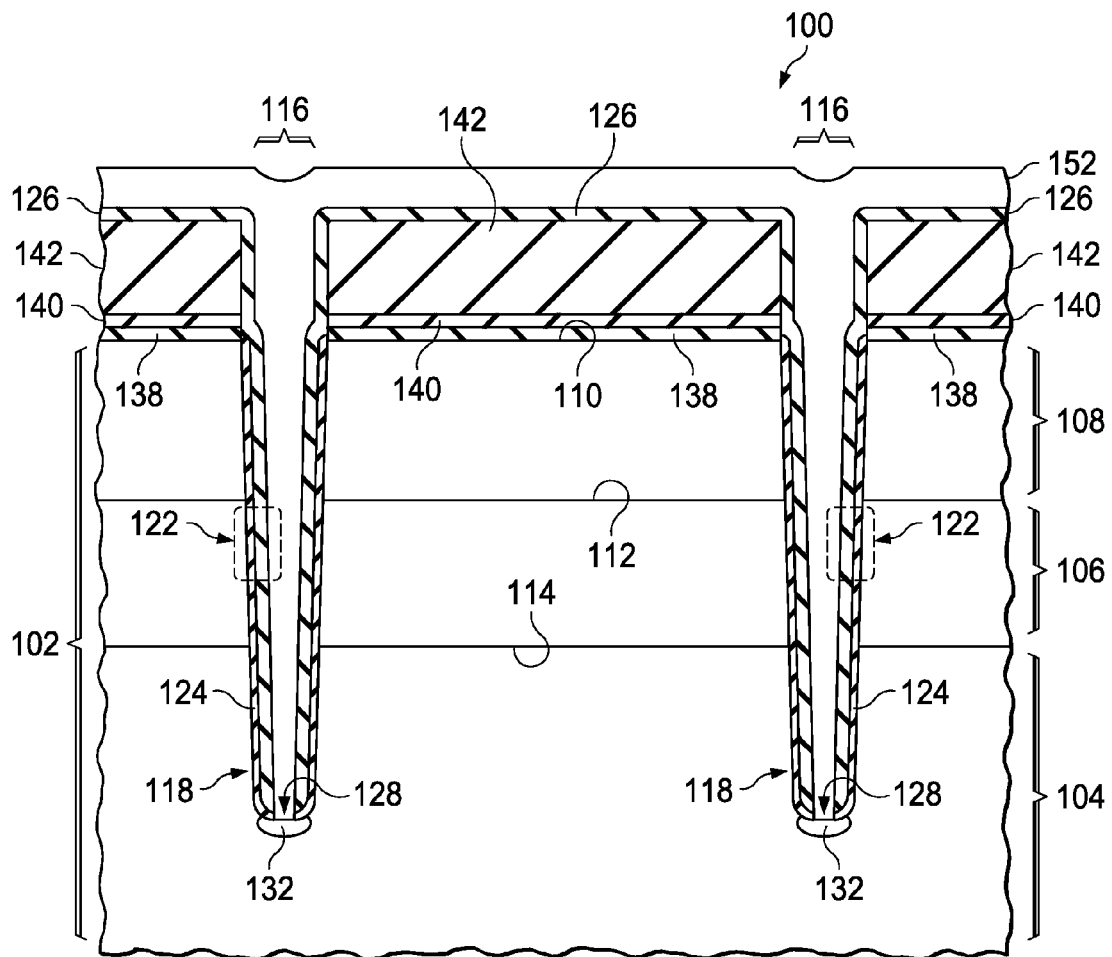


FIG. 2G

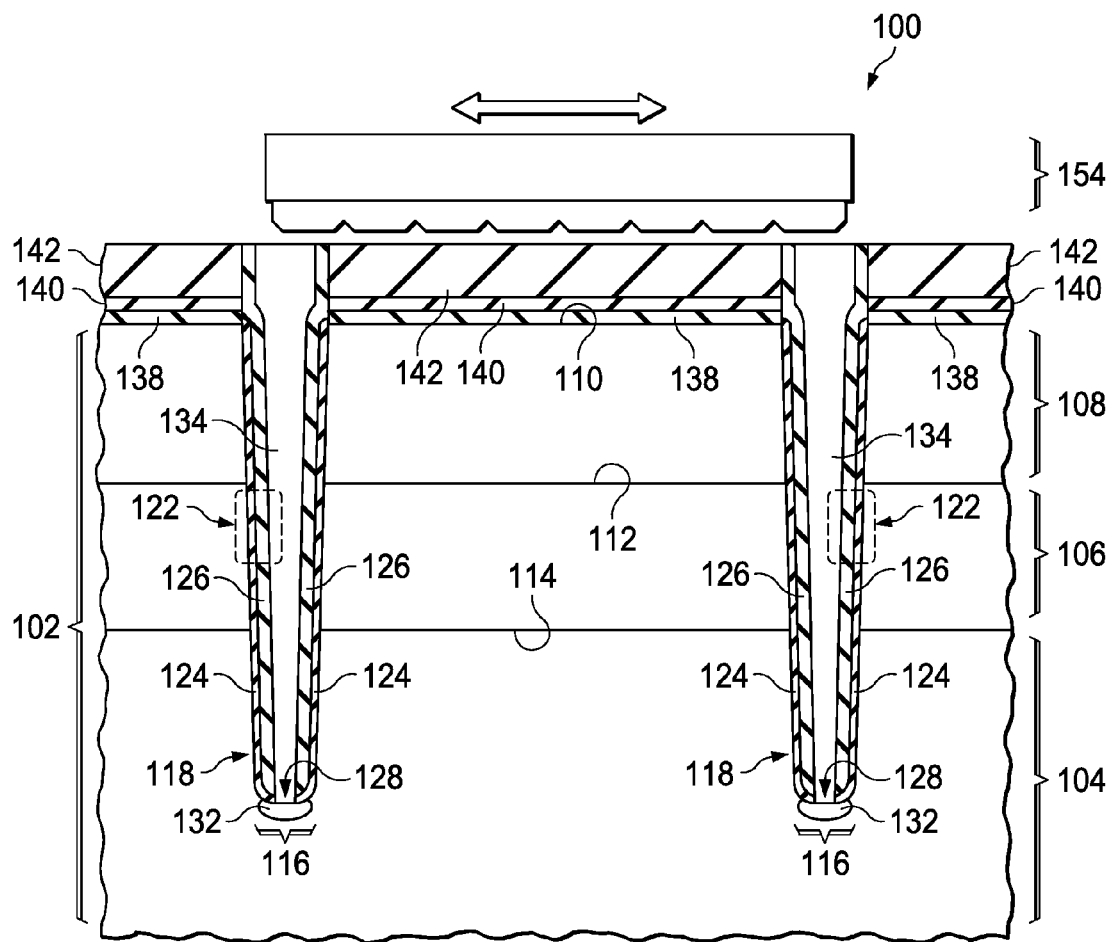
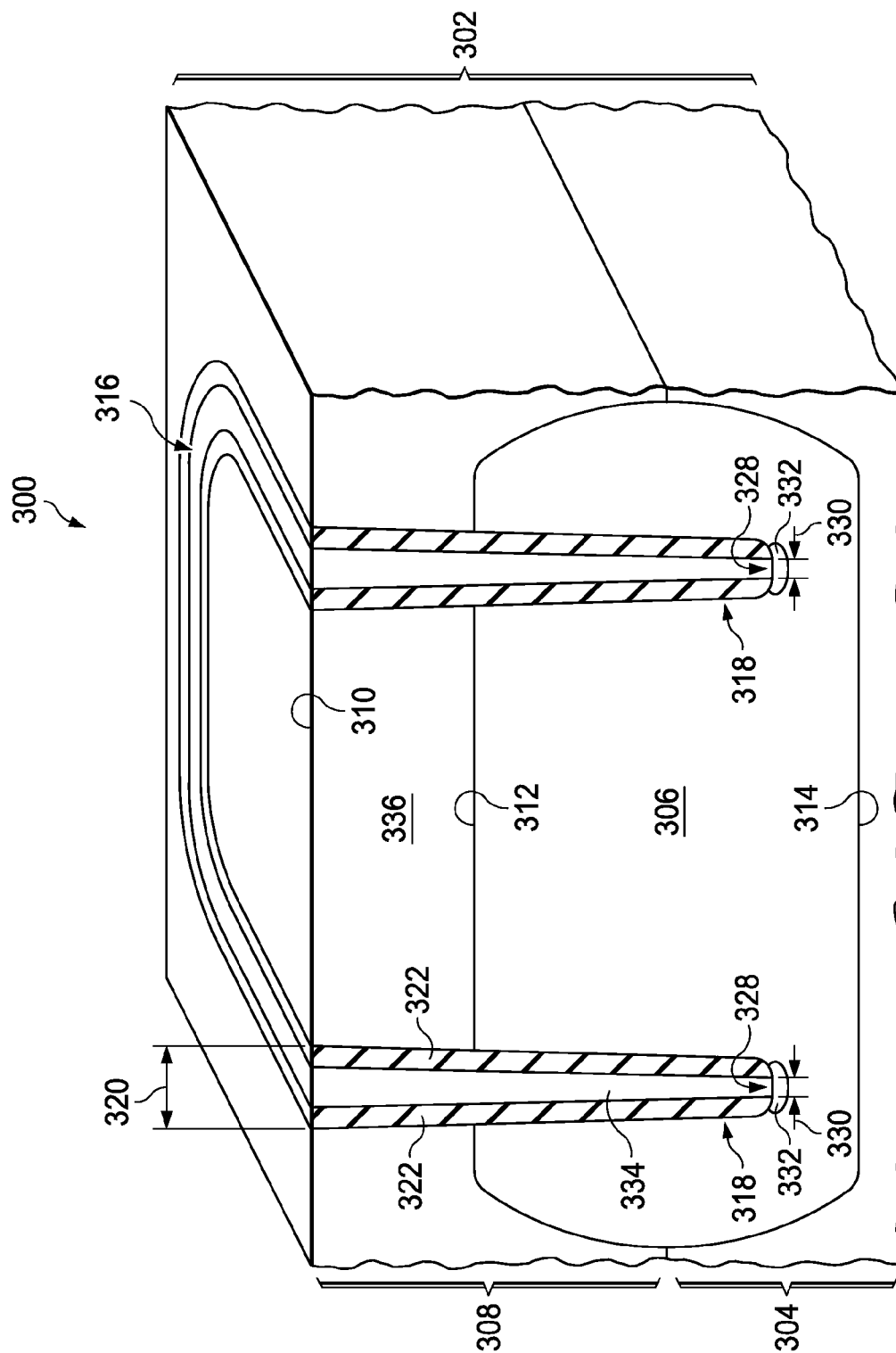


FIG. 2H



**FIG. 3**

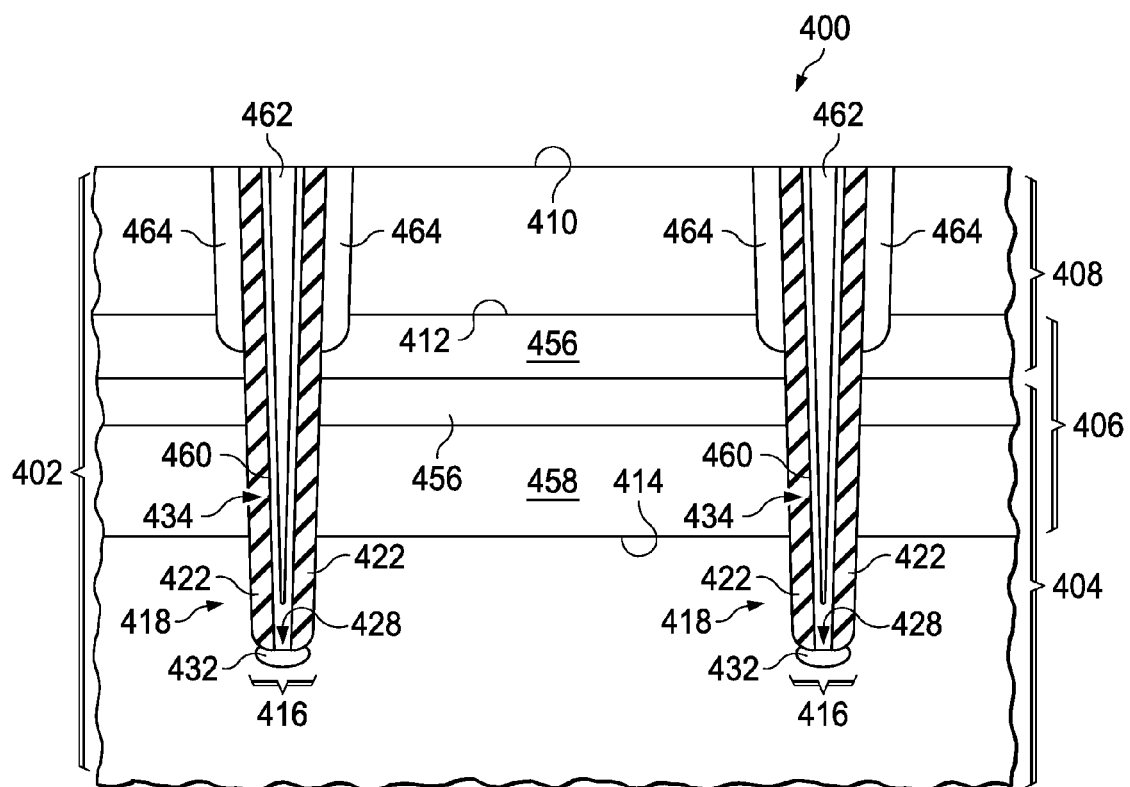


FIG. 4

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**VERY HIGH ASPECT RATIO CONTACT****FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

This invention relates to the field of semiconductor devices. More particularly, this invention relates to deep trench structures in semiconductor devices.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

A semiconductor device has an electrical connection from a top surface to the substrate below a buried layer. The electrical connection undesirably requires significant space and extra photolithographic process steps, both of which disadvantageously increase fabrication cost and complexity of the semiconductor device.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The following presents a simplified summary in order to provide a basic understanding of one or more aspects of the invention. This summary is not an extensive overview of the invention, and is neither intended to identify key or critical elements of the invention, nor to delineate the scope thereof. Rather, the primary purpose of the summary is to present some concepts of the invention in a simplified form as a prelude to a more detailed description that is presented later.

A semiconductor device is formed on a substrate comprising a semiconductor. A deep trench is formed in the substrate and a dielectric liner is formed on sidewalls and a bottom of the deep trench. A contact opening is formed through the dielectric liner at the bottom of the deep trench to expose the substrate. Conductive material is formed in the deep trench to provide a very high aspect ratio contact to the substrate through the contact opening.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE VIEWS OF THE DRAWING**

FIG. 1 is a cross section of an example semiconductor device containing a very high aspect ratio contact.

FIG. 2A through FIG. 2H are cross sections of the semiconductor device of FIG. 1, depicted in successive stages of fabrication.

FIG. 3 is a cross section of another example semiconductor device containing a very high aspect ratio contact.

FIG. 4 is a cross section of an example semiconductor device containing a very high aspect ratio contact.

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EXAMPLE EMBODIMENTS**

The following co-pending patent applications are related and hereby incorporated by reference: U.S. patent application Ser. No. 14/555,209, U.S. patent application Ser. No. 14/555,300, and U.S. patent application Ser. No. 14/555,330, all filed simultaneously with this application).

The present invention is described with reference to the attached figures. The figures are not drawn to scale and they are provided merely to illustrate the invention. Several aspects of the invention are described below with reference to example applications for illustration. It should be understood that numerous specific details, relationships, and methods are set forth to provide an understanding of the invention. One skilled in the relevant art, however, will readily recognize that the invention can be practiced without one or more of the specific details or with other methods. In other instances,

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well-known structures or operations are not shown in detail to avoid obscuring the invention. The present invention is not limited by the illustrated ordering of acts or events, as some acts may occur in different orders and/or concurrently with other acts or events. Furthermore, not all illustrated acts or events are required to implement a methodology in accordance with the present invention.

FIG. 1 is a cross section of an example semiconductor device containing a very high aspect ratio contact. The semiconductor device **100** is formed on a substrate **102** comprising a base layer **104**. The base layer **104** may be, for example, p-type bulk silicon or p-type epitaxial silicon over bulk silicon. An n-type buried layer **106** may be disposed in the substrate **102** over the base layer **104**. A p-type upper layer **108** may be disposed in the substrate **102** above the buried layer **106** and extending to a top surface **110** of the substrate **102**. A top surface **112** of the buried layer **106** may be 5 microns to 15 microns below the top surface **110** of the substrate **102**, and a bottom surface **114** of the buried layer **106** may be 5 microns to 15 microns below the top surface **112** of the buried layer **106**. The buried layer **106** may extend substantially across the semiconductor device **100** as depicted in FIG. 1 or may be a localized buried layer **106**.

A very high aspect ratio contact **116** is disposed in the substrate **102**. The very high aspect ratio contact **116** includes a deep trench **118** which extends at least 10 microns deep in the substrate **102**. The deep trench **118** extends through the buried layer **106** and into the base layer **104**. The deep trench **118** may have a width **120** of 1.5 microns to 5 microns proximate to the top surface **110** of the substrate **102**. A dielectric liner **122** is disposed on sidewalls of the deep trench **118**. The dielectric liner **122** may have a thickness of 250 nanometers to 750 nanometers. In the instant example, the dielectric liner **122** includes a first dielectric sub-layer **124** on the sidewalls and a second dielectric sub-layer **126** on the first dielectric sub-layer **124**. The first dielectric sub-layer **124** may be, for example, a layer of thermal oxide **124** 200 nanometers to 300 nanometers thick. The second dielectric sub-layer **126** may be, for example, 300 nanometers to 500 nanometers of deposited silicon dioxide.

The dielectric liner **122** is removed at a bottom of the deep trench **118** in a contact opening **128** which exposes the substrate **102**. The contact opening **128** has a width **130** of 200 nanometers to 1 micron. A doped contact region **132** may optionally be disposed in the substrate **102** under the contact opening **128**. The doped contact region **132** is doped with a same polarity of dopants as the base layer **104** and may have an average doping density greater than  $1 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ . A deep trench contact material **134** which is electrically conductive is disposed in the very high aspect ratio contact **116** on the dielectric liner **122**, extending through the contact opening **128** and making an electrical connection to the substrate **102**, through the doped contact region **132** if present. The deep trench contact material **134** may be predominantly polycrystalline silicon, referred to as polysilicon, or may be other electrically conductive material such as a layer of titanium and/or a layer of titanium nitride and a fill layer of tungsten or aluminum. The very high aspect ratio contact **116** may have an aspect ratio, that is, a ratio of the depth of the deep trench **118** to the width **120**, greater than 20. The very high aspect ratio contact **116** advantageously consumes less area of the semiconductor device **100** compared to other deep contacts.

In the instant example, the very high aspect ratio contact **116** has a closed-loop configuration as depicted in FIG. 1, so that a portion **136** of the upper layer **108** is electrically isolated from the remaining upper layer **108** by the very high aspect ratio contact **116**. In another version of the instant

example, the very high aspect ratio contact **116** may have a linear configuration rather than a closed-loop configuration. In an alternate version of the instant example, the semiconductor device **100** may be formed on an n-type base layer **104** with a p-type buried layer **106** and an n-type upper layer **108**.

FIG. 2A through FIG. 2H are cross sections of the semiconductor device of FIG. 1, depicted in successive stages of fabrication. Referring to FIG. 2A, the buried layer **106** and the upper layer **108** are formed on the base layer **104**. The buried layer **106** may be formed by implanting n-type dopants into the p-type base layer **104**, followed by a thermal drive anneal and a subsequent epitaxial process to grow the p-type upper layer **108**, so that the buried layer **106** is formed by diffusion and activation of the implanted n-type dopants.

A layer of pad oxide **138** is formed at the top surface **110** of the substrate, for example by thermal oxidation. The layer of pad oxide **138** may include 5 nanometers to 30 nanometers of silicon dioxide. A layer of pad nitride **140** is formed on the layer of pad oxide **138**, for example by low pressure chemical vapor deposition (LPCVD) using ammonia and silane. The layer of pad nitride **140** may include 100 nanometers to 300 nanometers of silicon nitride. A layer of hard mask oxide **142** is formed over the layer of pad nitride **140**, for example by a plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition (PECVD) using tetraethyl orthosilicate, also called tetraethoxysilane (TEOS), or using a high density plasma (HDP) process. The layer of hard mask oxide **142** may include 500 nanometers to 2 microns of silicon dioxide. The layer of pad nitride **140** provides an etch stop layer for subsequent etching of the layer of hard mask oxide **142**.

A trench mask **144** is formed over the layer of hard mask oxide **142** so as to expose areas for the very high aspect ratio contact **116** of FIG. 1. The trench mask **144** may include photoresist formed by a photolithographic process, and may further include a hard mask layer and/or an anti-reflection layer.

Referring to FIG. 2B, a hard mask etch process removes material from the layer of hard mask oxide **142** in the areas exposed by the trench mask **144**. Subsequently, a stop layer etch process removes the layer of pad nitride **140** and the layer of pad oxide **138** in the areas exposed by the trench mask **144**. The trench mask **144** may be significantly eroded by the hard mask etch process.

Referring to FIG. 2C, a trench etch process removes material from the substrate **102** in the areas exposed by the layer of hard mask oxide **142** to form the deep trenches **118** which extend to below the bottom surface of the buried layer **106**. The deep trenches **118** may be, for example, 25 microns to 35 microns deep in the substrate **102**. The trench mask **144** of FIG. 2B may be eroded or substantially removed by the trench etch process, as depicted in FIG. 2C. A portion of the layer of hard mask oxide **142** may also be eroded by the trench etch process. Any remaining trench mask **144** is removed after the deep trenches **118** are formed.

Referring to FIG. 2D, a layer of thermal oxide **124** is formed on the sidewalls and bottoms of the deep trenches **118** to provide the first dielectric sub-layer **124** of the dielectric liner **122**. The layer of thermal oxide **124** may be, for example, 200 nanometers to 300 nanometers thick. A layer of silicon dioxide **126** is formed on the layer of thermal oxide **124**, for example by a sub-atmospheric chemical vapor deposition (SACVD) process. The layer of silicon dioxide **126** may be, for example, 300 nanometers to 500 nanometers thick. The layer of thermal oxide **124** combined with the layer of deposited silicon dioxide **126** provide the dielectric liner **122**.

Referring to FIG. 2E, the dielectric liner **122** is removed at bottoms of the deep trenches **118** so as to form the contact openings **128** and expose the base layer **104**. The dielectric material may be removed, for example, by a reactive ion etch (RIE) process **146**. The RIE process **146** may use a fluorocarbon with at least 4 carbon atoms, such as  $C_4F_8$ , and oxygen ( $O_2$ ), which forms a carbon-based polymer coating on the dielectric liner **122** on the sidewalls to reduce etching there and so leave the dielectric liner **122** on the sidewalls substantially intact. Using the fluorocarbon with at least 4 carbon atoms and oxygen, with substantially no shorter chain hydrocarbon reactants, advantageously enables forming the contact openings **128** in the deep trench **118** with an aspect ratio of greater than 20. The semiconductor device **100** is free of an etch mask containing photoresist while the contact openings **128** are formed, advantageously reducing fabrication cost and complexity of the semiconductor device **100**.

Referring to FIG. 2F, p-type dopants **148** such as boron may be implanted into the substrate **102** under the contact openings **128** to form contact implanted regions **150**. The dopants **148** have the same polarity as the dopants in the base layer **104**. In the alternate version of the instant example in which the base layer **104** is n-type, the dopants **148** are n-type dopants such as phosphorus and/or arsenic. The dopants **148** may be implanted at a dose of, for example,  $2 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  to  $2 \times 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ . The dopants **148** may be implanted at substantially zero degrees tilt so as to reduce a portion of the dopants **148** which are unavoidably implanted into the dielectric liner **122**. The layer of hard mask oxide **142** absorbs the dopants **148** outside the areas for the very high aspect ratio contacts **116**. No implant mask generated by a photolithographic process is needed to screen the dopants **148** from the top surface **110** of the substrate **102**, advantageously reducing fabrication cost and complexity of the semiconductor device **100**.

Referring to FIG. 2G, a layer of deep trench contact material **152** is formed over the semiconductor device **100**, extending into the deep trenches **118** on the dielectric liner **122** and through the contact openings **128** to make electrical connection to the substrate **102**. The dopants in the contact implanted regions **150** of FIG. 2F if present are activated, possibly by the formation of the layer of deep trench contact material **152**, to form the doped contact regions **132**, so that the layer of deep trench contact material **152** makes electrical connection to the substrate **102** through the doped contact regions **132**. In one version of the instant embodiment, the layer of deep trench contact material **152** may be predominantly polysilicon. In another version, the layer of deep trench contact material **152** may include sub-layers with metallic compositions, such as a layer of sputtered titanium and/or a layer of titanium nitride. The layer of deep trench contact material **152** may include an aluminum or tungsten fill metal.

Referring to FIG. 2H, the layer of deep trench contact material **152** of FIG. 2G, the layer of hard mask oxide **142**, and a portion of the layer of pad nitride **140** over the top surface **110** of the substrate **102** are removed using a chemical mechanical polish (CMP) process **154** depicted in FIG. 2H as a CMP pad **154**. The layer of deep trench contact material **152** remaining in the deep trenches **118** provides the deep trench contact material **134**. The remaining layer of pad nitride **140**, and the layer of pad oxide **138** are subsequently removed to provide the structure of FIG. 1. Alternatively, the layer of pad oxide **138** may be left in place during subsequent implants and anneals, and removed later in the fabrication process.

FIG. 3 is a cross section of another example semiconductor device containing a very high aspect ratio contact. The semiconductor device **300** is formed on a substrate **302** comprising a base layer **304**. The base layer **304** may be, for example,

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p-type epitaxial silicon over bulk silicon. A p-type upper layer 308 is disposed in the substrate 302 above the base layer 304 and extending to a top surface 310 of the substrate 302. A localized n-type buried layer 306 is disposed in the substrate 302 over a portion of the base layer 304 and under the upper layer 308. The localized n-type buried layer 306 may be formed by implanting n-type dopants using an implant mask into the p-type base layer 304, followed by a thermal drive anneal and a subsequent epitaxial process to grow the p-type upper layer 308, so that the localized buried layer 306 is formed by diffusion and activation of the implanted n-type dopants. A top surface 312 of the buried layer 306 may be 10 microns to 40 microns below the top surface 310 of the substrate 302, and a bottom surface 314 of the buried layer 306 may be 20 microns to 40 microns below the top surface 312 of the buried layer 306.

A very high aspect ratio contact 316 is disposed in the substrate 302. The very high aspect ratio contact 316 includes a deep trench 318 which extends at least 10 microns deep in the substrate 302. The deep trench 318 extends into the localized buried layer 306 but not into the base layer 304. The deep trench 318 may have a width 320 of 1.5 microns to 5 microns proximate to the top surface 310 of the substrate 302. A dielectric liner 322 is disposed on sidewalls of the deep trench 318. The dielectric liner 322 may have a thickness of 250 nanometers to 750 nanometers. The dielectric liner 316 may be formed as described in reference to FIG. 2D. The dielectric liner 322 is removed at a bottom of the deep trench 318 in a contact opening 328 which exposes the substrate 302, as described in reference to FIG. 2E. The contact opening 328 has a width 330 of 200 nanometers to 1 micron. A doped contact region 332 may optionally be disposed in the substrate 302 under the contact opening 328. The doped contact region 332 is doped with a same polarity of dopants as the localized buried layer 306 and may have an average doping density greater than  $1 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ . A deep trench contact material 334 which is electrically conductive is disposed in the very high aspect ratio contact 316 on the dielectric liner 322, extending through the contact opening 328 and making an electrical connection to the localized buried layer 306 portion of the substrate 302, through the doped contact region 332 if present. The deep trench contact material 334 may have a composition as described in reference to FIG. 1. The very high aspect ratio contact 316 may have an aspect ratio, that is, a ratio of the depth of the deep trench 318 to the width 320, greater than 20. The very high aspect ratio contact 316 advantageously consumes less area of the semiconductor device 300 compared to other deep contacts.

In the instant example, the very high aspect ratio contact 316 has a closed-loop configuration as depicted in FIG. 3, so that a portion 336 of the upper layer 308 is electrically isolated from the remaining upper layer 308 by the very high aspect ratio contact 316. In another version of the instant example, the very high aspect ratio contact 316 may have a linear configuration rather than a closed-loop configuration, so as to provide a bias connection to the localized buried layer 306. In an alternate version of the instant example, the semiconductor device 300 may be formed on an n-type base layer 304 with a p-type buried layer 306 and an n-type upper layer 308.

FIG. 4 is a cross section of an example semiconductor device containing a very high aspect ratio contact. The semiconductor device 400 is formed in a substrate 402 comprising a p-type base semiconductor layer 404 of semiconductor material, an n-type buried layer 406 of semiconductor material and a p-type upper semiconductor layer 408 extending to a top surface 410 of the substrate 402. The p-type base semi-

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conductor layer 404 may be an epitaxial semiconductor layer with a resistivity of 5 ohm-cm to 10 ohm-cm. The p-type upper semiconductor layer 408 may also be an epitaxial semiconductor layer with a resistivity of 5 ohm-cm to 10 ohm-cm. The n-type buried layer 406 may include a main layer 456 which straddles the boundary between the base semiconductor layer 404 and the upper semiconductor layer 408, extending at least a micron into the base semiconductor layer 404 and at least a micron into the upper semiconductor layer 408. The n-type buried layer 406 may also include a lightly-doped layer 458 extending at least 2 microns below the main layer 456. A top surface 412 of the buried layer 406 may be 10 microns to 40 microns below the top surface 410 of the substrate 402, and a bottom surface 414 of the buried layer 406 may be 20 microns to 40 microns below the top surface 412 of the buried layer 406. The n-type buried layer 406 may be formed as described in the commonly assigned patent application having patent application Ser. No. 14/555,330, filed concurrently with this application, and which is incorporated herein by reference.

One or more very high aspect ratio contacts 416 are disposed in the substrate 402. The very high aspect ratio contact 416 includes a deep trench 418 which extends at least 10 microns deep in the substrate 402, through the buried layer 406 and into the base semiconductor layer 404. A dielectric liner 422 is disposed on sidewalls of the deep trench 418. The dielectric liner 422 is removed at a bottom of the deep trench 418 in a contact opening 428 which exposes the substrate 402. A doped contact region 432 is disposed in the substrate 402 under the contact opening 428. The very high aspect ratio contacts 416 may be formed as described in any of the examples herein.

A deep trench contact material 434 which is electrically conductive is disposed in the very high aspect ratio contact 416 on the dielectric liner 422, extending through the contact opening 428 and making an electrical connection to the substrate 402, through the doped contact region 432. In the instant example, the deep trench contact material 434 includes a first layer of polysilicon 460 disposed on the dielectric liner 422, extending through the contact openings 428 of the very high aspect ratio contacts 416, and a second layer of polysilicon 462 is disposed on the first layer of polysilicon 460. Dopants are distributed in the first layer of polysilicon 460 and the second layer of polysilicon 462 with an average doping density of at least  $1 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ . The deep trench contact material 434 may be formed as described in the commonly assigned patent application having patent application Ser. No. 14/555,300, filed concurrently with this application, and which is incorporated herein by reference.

N-type self-aligned sinkers 464 are disposed in the upper semiconductor layer 408 abutting the deep trenches 418 and extending to the buried layer 406. The self-aligned sinkers 464 provide electrical connections to the buried layer 406. The self-aligned sinkers 464 may be formed as described in the commonly assigned patent application having patent application Ser. No. 14/555,209, filed concurrently with this application, and which is incorporated herein by reference.

While various embodiments of the present invention have been described above, it should be understood that they have been presented by way of example only and not limitation. Numerous changes to the disclosed embodiments can be made in accordance with the disclosure herein without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention. Thus, the breadth and scope of the present invention should not be limited by any of the above described embodiments. Rather, the scope of the invention should be defined in accordance with the following claims and their equivalents.

What is claimed is:

1. A semiconductor device, comprising:

- a substrate comprising a semiconductor material a p-type base layer, a localized n-type buried layer over a portion of the base layer and a p-type upper layer over the localized n-type buried layer, a top surface of the n-type buried layer being 5 microns to 10 microns below the top surface of the substrate;
- a very high aspect ratio contact extending into the localized n-type buried layer and into but not through the p-type base layer, comprising:
- a deep trench at least 10 microns deep in the substrate;
- a dielectric liner disposed on sidewalls of the deep trench, the very high aspect ratio contact being free of the dielectric liner in a contact opening at a bottom of the deep trench; and
- a deep trench contact material, which is electrically conductive, disposed on the dielectric liner and extending into the localized n-type buried layer but not to the p-type base layer.

2. A semiconductor device, comprising:

- a substrate comprising a p-type base layer, an n-type buried layer over the p-type base layer and a p-type upper layer over the buried layer, a top surface of the n-type buried layer being 5 microns to 10 microns below the top surface of the substrate;
- a very high aspect ratio contact extending through the n-type buried layer and into but not through the p-type base layer, comprising:
- a deep trench at least 10 microns deep in the substrate, the deep trench having a width of 1.5 microns to 5 microns proximate to a top surface of the substrate;
- a dielectric liner 250 nanometers to 750 nanometers thick disposed on sidewalls of the deep trench, the very high aspect ratio contact being free of the dielectric liner in a contact opening at a bottom of the deep trench, the contact opening having a width of 200 nanometers to 1 micron; and
- a deep trench contact material, which is electrically conductive, disposed on the dielectric liner and extending through the contact opening to make an electrical connection to the substrate.

3. The semiconductor device of claim 2, wherein the dielectric liner comprises a first dielectric sub-layer on the sidewalls and a second dielectric sub-layer on the first dielectric sub-layer.

4. The semiconductor device of claim 3, wherein the first dielectric sub-layer comprises thermal oxide 200 nanometers to 300 nanometers thick and the second dielectric sub-layer comprises deposited silicon dioxide 300 nanometers to 500 nanometers thick.

5. The semiconductor device of claim 2, comprising a doped contact region in the substrate below the contact opening, the doped contact region having an average doping density greater than  $1 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ .

6. The semiconductor device of claim 2, wherein the deep trench contact material comprises polysilicon.

7. The semiconductor device of claim 2, wherein the deep trench has a depth of 25 microns to 35 microns in the substrate.

8. The semiconductor device of claim 2, wherein the very high aspect ratio contact has an aspect ratio greater than 20, the aspect ratio being a ratio of a depth of the deep trench to the width of the deep trench proximate to the top surface of the substrate.

9. The semiconductor device of claim 2, wherein the very high aspect ratio contact has a closed-loop configuration.

10. A method of forming a semiconductor device, comprising the steps:

- providing a substrate comprising a base layer, a n-type buried layer over the base layer and an upper layer over the n-type buried layer;
- forming a deep trench in the substrate, the deep trench being at least 10 microns deep in the substrate and having a width of 1.5 microns to 5 microns proximate to a top surface of the substrate;
- forming a dielectric liner 250 nanometers to 750 nanometers thick on sidewalls and a bottom of the deep trench;
- removing the dielectric liner at the bottom of the deep trench from a top of the trench to form a contact opening 200 nanometers to 1 micron wide which exposes the substrate below the deep trench, leaving the dielectric liner on the sidewalls, the semiconductor device being free of an etch mask containing photoresist while the contact openings are formed; and
- forming a deep trench contact material, which is electrically conductive, on the dielectric liner and extending through the contact opening to make an electrical connection to the substrate.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein forming the dielectric liner comprises forming a first dielectric sub-layer on the sidewalls and subsequently forming a second dielectric sub-layer on the first dielectric sub-layer.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein forming the first dielectric sub-layer comprises forming a layer of thermal oxide 200 nanometers to 300 nanometers thick and forming the second dielectric sub-layer comprises forming a layer of silicon dioxide 300 nanometers to 500 nanometers thick by a sub-atmospheric chemical vapor deposition (SACVD) process.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the deep trench contact material comprises polysilicon.

14. The method of claim 10, wherein providing the substrate comprises:

- providing the base layer comprising p-type semiconductor material;
- implanting n-type dopants into the base layer; and
- forming the upper layer comprising p-type semiconductor material by an epitaxial process so that the n-type dopants diffuse to form the n-type buried layer over the base layer, such that a top surface of the n-type buried layer is 5 microns to 10 microns below the top surface of the substrate, and the very high aspect ratio contact extends through the n-type buried layer into the p-type base layer.

15. The method of claim 10, wherein removing the dielectric liner at the bottom of the deep trench comprises a reactive ion etch (RIE) process using a fluorocarbon with at least 4 carbon atoms, and oxygen ( $\text{O}_2$ ), and substantially no shorter chain hydrocarbon reactants.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the fluorocarbon with at least 4 carbon atoms is  $\text{C}_4\text{F}_8$ .

17. The method of claim 10, comprising implanting dopants into the substrate at the bottom of the deep trench after the contact opening is formed to form a contact region with an average doping density greater than  $1 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , wherein the semiconductor device is free of an implant mask comprising photoresist while the dopants are implanted.

18. The method of claim 10, wherein the deep trench has a depth of 25 microns to 35 microns in the substrate.

19. The method of claim 10, wherein the very high aspect ratio contact has an aspect ratio greater than 20, the aspect ratio being a ratio of a depth of the deep trench to the width of the deep trench proximate to the top surface of the substrate.



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**20.** A method of forming a semiconductor device, comprising the steps:

providing a substrate comprising a semiconductor material by

providing a base layer comprising p-type semiconductor material; 5

implanting n-type dopants into the base layer; and

forming an upper layer comprising p-type semiconductor material by an epitaxial process so that the n-type dopants diffuse to form an n-type buried layer over the base layer, such that a top surface of the n-type buried layer is 5 microns to 10 microns below the top surface of the substrate; 10

forming a deep trench in the substrate, the deep trench extending through the upper layer and the n-type buried layer into the p-type base layer; 15

forming a dielectric liner on sidewalls and a bottom of the deep trench;

removing the dielectric liner at the bottom of the deep trench using a reactive ion etch (RIE) process with a

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fluorocarbon having at least 4 carbon atoms, and oxygen ( $O_2$ ), and substantially no shorter chain hydrocarbon reactants from a top of the trench to form a contact opening which exposes the substrate below the deep trench, leaving the dielectric liner on the sidewalls, the semiconductor device being free of an etch mask containing photoresist while the contact openings are formed; and

forming a deep trench contact material, which is electrically conductive, on the dielectric liner and extending through the contact opening to make an electrical connection to the substrate.

**21.** The method of claim **20**, wherein the fluorocarbon with at least 4 carbon atoms is  $C_4F_8$ .

**22.** The method of claim **20**, comprising implanting dopants into the substrate at the bottom of the deep trench after the contact opening is formed to form a contact region, wherein the semiconductor device is free of an implant mask comprising photoresist while the dopants are implanted.

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